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Proofs and Essays.

To those who have given no attention to the study of Proofs and Essays, especially of our own country, we would siy: do so by all means. The field is large, instructive and decidedly fascinating while the beauty of such a collection cannot be overestimated.

In the first place it should be understood that a proof bears to the regularly issued stamp the

relation that a remarque proof does to an etching, or to any artistic production of a like nature. Particular care is exercised in every detail of their printing; the paper upon which they are printed is selected with especial reference to its fitness for reproducing the finest detail of the engraving and the final result is "a thing of beauty and a joy forever."

Proofs may be, roughly speaking, divided into two classes: "die proofs" and "plate proofs". The former, being printed directly from the original die of the stamp, can generally be easily distinguished by the wide margins of the paper upon which they are struck and are generally considered much more desirable, by reason of their comparative scarcity, than are the "plate proofs", which are printed in sheets from the regular plates and have, consequently, very limited margins.

We know of but one instance in which a "die proof" is known to have been printed without allowing a liberal margin to the paper (of course the margin may be trimmed from any proof, or stamp either for that matter). In the case of the revenue stamps of the series of 1871 the dies of all of the values from one cent to fifty dollars, together with the proprietary stamps of the same series from one cent to ten cents, were clamped together and proof impressions were taken, in various colors, of the whole upon one sheet of paper. So far as we are aware these are found only upon India paper and it is a pretty safe conclusion that, if a proof of this series is found in a certain color, all the other values may be looked for in the same tint.

The proofs of all United States stamps may be found upon cardboard, which is of several qualities and thicknesses, besides several varieties of paper of which two, commonly known as "India paper" and "bond paper" are, perhaps, the most frequently met with. The India paper is very soft, thin, white and has a silky appearance by which it is easily recognized. It is, with the exception of cardboard (which was seldom used for die proofs) the most

frequently met with and great care should be used in handling it as, should it be wet it immediately loses its silky look, shrinks badly and most unevenly, so that it is very hard to make it lie flat again, and seems to thicken the paper.

The "bond paper ' is thin, very hard and brittle.

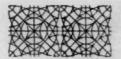
Besides these regularly recognized proof papers others are sometimes used for this purpose Proofs upon regular paper, even in a perforated and gummed state, are not at all uncommon and any stamp so found in any other than the adopted color is clearly referable to this class. Colored papers, too, are not unfrequently met with and "onion-skin" has been used to a limited extent.

Essays are interesting inasmuch as they show "what might have been." Some of them are of very beautiful and artistic designs; many being, in fact, too finely executed to have given satisfaction, as the finer details of the design would not have withstood the wear to which the ordinary stamp-plate is subjected. Others are interesting solely on account of the crudity of their designs and as an exposition of the ingeniousness (?) of their sponsors.

Unlike proofs, many essays are unique; some being finely executed pen and ink sketches. Others are what is known as "built up" designs; as, for instance, one which we remember to have seen and which was made up of a proof of the Nova Scotia, five cent value upon which had been pasted a head of Washington, covering the original head of the Queen, and, over the inscription "NOVA SCOTIA", "PI STAGE".

Little appreciated in the past these interesting side-lines have now many staunch devotees and, as the interest in them increases, as it is doing from day to day, many of them are becoming scarce and increasingly difficult to

find,-G. L. T.



The Half Penny of New South Wales 1891 Issue.

By E. W. WETHERELL.

In 1891 stamps of the value of one half penny were required; to supply these stamps, before a new plate could be made, recourse was had to surcharging, but not on any stamp then current as all the plates were required for

printing other denominations then in use

The plate of the penny red, which had been superceded for three years by the lilac stamp with view of Sydney, was, therefore, requestioned. It was in a terribly bad condition but was put to press and a number of sheets were printed in grey—these sheets then received a surcharge of "HALF PENNY"—[one or more sheets conviently escaped the surcharge, hence no 314 in Messrs. Stanley Gibbons catalogue]

As I have said, the plate was much worn and broken, consequently flaws may be found in great abundance and I find it is possible to plate the

entire sheet of 120 varieties.

The sheet consists of two panes of 60 stamps each, having ten rows of

six stamps.

The top margin has "v R", in a monogram, in white on grey ground over the second stamp of the left pane, and an oblong tablet bearing the inscription "6 Pr. 6. " in white letters, on a grey ground, over the fifth stamp of the right pane.

The number (167653 in the sheet under description) is impressed in

black on the top right corner of the sheet.

At the bottom of each pane is the inscription "POSTAGE ONE PENNY" in

grey letters. These letters are much worn.

The right pane is much more damaged than the left, practically every stamp being badly flawed, whereas only the right vertical row of the left pane shows really serious damage. Some of the stamps of the right pane, such as numbers 7, 49 and 55 (see below), may be picked out at first glance, as the flaws are most glaring.

In the case of number 49 there are five enormous flaws and about twenty

small ones

All the worst flaws occur on the left vertical row of the right pane.

The most general irregularity in the left pane is in the form of a complete wearing of the die in the right bottom corner, and in the right pane generally the top of the Queen's head and the left upper corner are those portions most worn.

The two left hand vertical rows of the left pane are in the best condition. The description of the stamp consists of a profile of the Queen to left with coronet. In the perfectly preserved die the entire face and neck are shaded with the exception of the forehead in front of the braid of hair drawn back from the temples, and the base of the neck. In nearly all copies however, the die is more or less worn and white patches of various sizes take the place of the faint lines of shading. The die appears to have worn most around the mouth, but some stamps, such as 55 and 49 in the right pane, have the whole of the front of the face white except the eye itself. The portrait is on a horizontally lined background, the lines of which show practically no

signs of wear. The oval band which surrounds the profile consists of a thin colorless line, then a colored line, another thin colorless line, and a broad colored band bearing the inscription. I his is followed by another colorless line, thicker than the inner ones, and one more colored line, followed by a thicker colorless line; another colored line completes the band but it is not

continuous being interrupted by the inner lines of the frame.

The rectangular frame consists of three lines, a thin inner and outer line and a thick median line. The corners are occupied by lightly shaded ornaments on a ground of solid color, but, as there is more ornament than background, the latter appears in the form of fairly thick interrupted horizontal lines with curved ends, and as indentations into the ornaments. The inscription "NEW SOUTH WALES POSTAGE" occupies the upper portion of the band. It is very well preserved only five dies showing any break. The "ONE PENNY" occupies the bottom of the band and is not broken in any case.

The perforation of the sheet before me is very interesting; it is the result of a comb machine (No. 2) with the back of the comb perforating the sides of the stamps, i.e it is a sideway comb machine, the teeth being shorter than the space between them. The space between is slightly too wide for the stamps, hence, at the top of the pane, the line of perforation is too high, leaving too great a margin above and cutting into the bottom of the stamps. The middle rows are nicely centered, and the bottom rows have too large a margin at the bottom, and the perforation cuts into the top of the stamps. The back of the comb perforated the inner vertical row of the pane first and worked outwards, hence the outer margins are perforated. The sheet was then turned around and the other pane was perforated in the same way, thus the central band of paper between the panes is not perforated at all. The comb was not only too widely spaced, but it was also needlessly long, so that both top and bottom margins are perforated.

The last two punches on the 1st, 3rd, 4th and 5th teeth of the comb were blunt, hence the last perforation is blind, and this blind perforation occurs on the other pane in reversed position, showing that the sheet was turned around and that it was not perforated by folding the sheet. The punches of the teeth are not in alignment with the punches of the back, but start between two hence the extreme corners are frequently torn off. There are 143 holes

in the back, and 15 over at the edges and 10 in the teeth.

The watermark is crown and "n s w", repeated oo times and enclosed in a rectangular frame for each pane. The central band of paper bears no watermark. The upper margin is watermarked "NEW SOUTH WALES POSTAGE".

To prevent repetition of words in the description I have used the following abbreviation:—

A—Top, thin outer line of frame
B—Left, outer thin line
C—Bottom, outer thin line
D—Right, " " "
E—Top, thick central line of frame
F—Left, " " "
G—Bottom, thick central line of frame
H—Right, " " " "

L—Top, thin inner " "

K—Left, " " " " "

L—Bottom, thin inner " "

N—Right, " " " "

LEFT PANE.

ast Row:

1. Large flaw in top left corner, " A" missing at right end for 1/4 of the distance, fairly large white flaw in bottom right corner.

2. "A" very irregular and blotchy. "B" broken at bottom, "L" broken

in left corner.

3. Only an indication of "A". "B" broken near top corner and at bottom; "L" broken in left corner.

"A" and "B" unconnected, "A" and "D" unconnected, small flaw in "L" between "E" and "P" of "ONE" and "PENNY".

5. "A" discontinued over "LES" of "WALES", "A" and "D" unconnected, "B" and "c" unconnected.

6. Top lines all broken and irregular, upper right corner in a dreadful condition, right bottom corner badly broken, "L" missing.

7. "A" broken in three places, "F" broken markedly opposite "s" of " SOUTH ".

8. Only the central portion of "A" remaining, flaw in "L" and "B" opposite "n" of "NEW", "B" broken three times, right bottom corner ornaments flawed.

9. The sharpness of the corners bevelled off, "J" broken at left end; bottom right corner flawed.

To. "B" broken at top, "J" broken at left, bottom right corner flawed.

II. "J" badly broken at both ends, "B" almost wanting, "F" thinned at top; large white flaws in all corners.

12. Corners very bad -distinguishable from 6 by "L" which is unbroken.

3rd Row:

13. Very good preservation—" A" missing at right end.

14. "A" wanting

15. "A" wanting and "B" broken.

16. "B" broken twice, "D" broken twice.

17. "A" wanting, "L" broken on right.

18. Right frame in strings and bottom right corners smashed up.

4th Row :

19. Very good preservation but "B" and "c" unconnected.

so. Large break in "B".

21. Flaw on curl of hair, and face whiter than any other stamp on this pane.

27. Difficult to identify—a very minute flaw in "B".
23. "A" wanting, "D" broken. 24. "H" broken very badly at top for nearly half its length, "D" missing, but an additional thin line outside, on right side.

5th Row:

25. In perfect condition, practical no flaws, face well shaded, only a small white space above and below mouth.

26. In perfect condition; a large white space above mouth.

27. Only distinguishable from 39 by a lack of shading on front of the chin.

broken on right side.

29. "C" broken on right side and "A" and "D" not connected.

30. "A" and "D", "E" and "H" not connected, "A" wanting at left and right ends.

6th Row

31. Nose heavily shaded, hair projecting forward on forehead to the maximum

32. White flaw between the chin and " n " of " NEW ".

33. Same as 31 but hair less forward.

34. Considerable part of cheek and cheek-bone white.

35. "c" missing at right end.

36. "C" missing for half its length, right bottom corner bevelled off.

7th Row:

37. White patch on face extending to bridge of nose.

38. White patch S. E. of eye.

- 39. Face completely shaded, no white patch of any sort. The only one on the sheet.
- 40. Small cut in neck about the Adam's apple. "c" broken at right end. 41. Front of face and whole of nose white, "c" missing for half its length.

 42. Right bottom corner broken away, "c" practically wanting.

8th Row:

43. "c" missing at right end. 44. "c" broken twice. 45. "c" broken three times.

46. "c" missing at right end and broken twice on left.

47 "c" missing on right end, "H" broken quarter way up on right. 48. Similar to 42 but "L" broken twice and "M" broken at top.

oth Row:

49. Indistinguishable from 44 except for a very minute break at right end of " L "

50. Only an indication of "c". "L" broken at both ends.

51. "c" much broken and missing on right end. Three breaks in "L".

52. "C" missing; four breaks in "L"; right corner bevelled off.

53. Three breaks in "L"; "C" missing.
54 "C" missing; "L" broken seven times; "D" very weak and indistinct. 10th Row:

55. White flaw in background of head S. E. of back of neck. 56. "c" weak and broken at right end, large break at left end of "L".

57. "c" very clear at extreme right end, missing on the right except for the extreme end, " A" missing at right end.

58. "A" missing; "C" indistinct; bottom left corner bevelled off.

59. "A" missing at left and right, distinct in middle; "c" missing for right three-quarters; bottom right corners badly broken.

60. Bottom right corner smashed up, "c" missing and the ends of "G" and "H"; "L" and "M" mixed up.

RIGHT PANE.

1st Row:

1. "A" very thick blotchy and broken at right; large white flaw in top left corner; "D" missing at lower end.

2. Face heavily shaded but a white spot at side of mouth; "D" missing at lower end; an additional thin line between "A" and "E".

3. Face heavily shaded but chin white; "D" missing at lower end, additional thin line between "A" and "E"

4. Partial additional line between " A" and "E".

5. Indications of a second line between "A" and "E".

6. Partial additional line between "A" and "E", and the upper right corner badly damaged.

7. A very large white patch which removes the "N" of "NEW" and extends

S. E, obliterating the ornament between "o" of "ONE", and "N" of "NEW", and inward through the oval band into the horizontally lined background. All four corners broken and bevelled.

8 Top left corner missing.

o. "A" missing except in centre; face very delicately shaded; large break at left end of "L".

10. "A" missing at both ends; all corners bevelled, "J" broken at right; "L" broken at left.

11. "A" missing at right and left; "D" missing at bottom; "L" broken at left; bald patch on Queen's head 12. Bald patch; face very white; "A" broken at left end; "D" very blotchy

and indistinct.

3rd Row:

13. The extreme left upper corner is completely separated from the rest of the stamp; "B" is practically wanting; "F" has a large break opposite "EW" of "NEW"; bottom left corner also detached; "L" broken three times at left and once at right; white flaw S. E. of "o" of "ONE". "A" missing, "E" badly broken.

14. All four corners bevelled off, "A" practically missing. "J" badly broken;

"L" broken at left; white Adam's apple.

Similar to 14 but shaded apple.
 Bald patch; "A" practically missing; "J" broken at left; white patch on cheek N. E. of mouth.

17. "A" broken at left and right; "J" broken at left; "D" broken at top and bottom.

18 Top of head blurred and faint; "D" very indistinct; "A" broken at left.

4th Row:

19. "A" missing except at extreme right; "B" missing; "D" missing except at top; 'E" broken badly; "F" broken S. W. of "N" of "NEW";
"K" broken at bottom, 'L" twice broken

20. All corners bevelled; "J" badly broken; unshaded patch in lower left corner. "A" missing at both ends; "C" broken.

21. The best preservation in this pane, "A" missing at ends and "J" broken

22. Similar to 21 but less shading on face; right upper corner bevelled.

23. Bald patch; right upper corner bevelled off; "c" broken. 24. In very good condition - white spot on face at side of nostril.

5th Row:

25. "A" thick and blotchy over the "w" of "WALES" and missing for the rest of the distance Only an indication of "J"; "M" broken four

times; face very white and blotchy; "C" missing.

26. "A" missing; "J" broken at left over "L" of "WALES" and at right;
"L" broken at left and right; heavily shaded face except for one white patch at side of mouth; "C" missing.

7. "A" missing at both ends; "J" broken at left; "L" broken at left;

left lower and right upper corner bevelled off; "c" almost absent

28. "A" missing at both ends; all four corners bevelled; white spot in "E" north west of "w" of "wales"; "D" broken at bottom; "c" missing at right end.

29. Extreme end of "A" missing at left; "c" very defective; "D" missing at bottom; white spot under " P" of " PENNY ".

30. " A" very defective; two lower corners bevelled; white spot under " E" of "PENNY".

6th Row:

31. "A" entirely absent; "E" broken at left; "J" almost wanting; "L" broken at left end, and badly in the middle at which point "G" is also broken; 'c" entirely wanting; very little shading on neck.
32. Top left corner badly broken, and corner ornament much worn; "A"

and "c" entirely absent; "L" broken at left end; "G" badly broken

33. "A" and "C" absent; "J" and "L" broken at left end and "D" at top.
34. "A" missing at both ends; and "C" at right end; white dot between
"w" of "NEW" and "S" of "SOUTH".

35. Large white spot between "s" and "o" of "south".

36. "s" of "POSTAGE" is a white spot.

7th Row:

37. "J" missing for half its length on right; ornaments in both upper corners much worn; top left corner white.

38 All three top lines badly broken and missing over "WALES"; top left corner ornament much worn

39. Ornament between "POSTAGE" and "PENNY" is now a white spot.

40. Face thickly shaded; all lines perfect except "c" which consists of four dashes.

41. "A" and "B" not joined; "D" broken three times; bald patch on head,

42. Forehead worn and white; "c" missing, "G" very thin and worn.

8th Row:

43. Lines of frame on left all missing at bottom for one third of its length; bald patch; "c" missing.

44. "B" missing at top and half way down; "c" missing.

45. "C' missing for half its length on right; "J" and "L" broken at left ends.

46. "c" represented by four dashes.

47. Large white flaw in front of Queen's nose, and bald patch.

48. " is" excessively blotchy and broken.

oth Row:

49. The worst condition of any stamp on the sheet. There is a very large bald patch; the whole front of the face is white except the eye. The mouth is a colored spot; front of neck white; a colored line diagonally between "E" and "w" of "NEW" extending beyond the stamp on left; only a slight indication of one top line; both upper corners missing. Large flaw in right side line opposite "AGE" of "POSTAGE"; spot between "w" and "s"; all the lines of frame broken in several

50. Bottom left corner gone; big flaw in all bottom lines in the centre.

51. All corners bevelled; "J" and "L" broken on left; white spot around mouth; "c" missing.

52. Indications of "c"; slight bald patch. This is in very good condition.
53. Large bald patch; "c" missing.
54. Small bald patch; "D" broken many times.

10th Row :

55. Inner frame of band white for half the length on left side; large bald patch; ornament under "N" is a white splotch; face very white.

56. Vertical white line through 'E" of "PENNY".

57. Large white spot over coil of hair.

58. Bald patch; inner frame damaged in front of eye,

59. Lines of background blurred over head.

60. Lines of background blurred over head and right bottom corner bevelled.

Notes Upon Stamps and their Varieties.*

By GEO. L. TOPPAN.

[Continued from page 310.]

REPRINTS.

1847 SERIES.

When it was desired to reprint these stamps in 1875, it was found that, owing to the original dies and plates having been the property of the contractors, Rawdon, Wright, Hatch & Edson, of New York, who had destroyed them after the termination of their contract, it would be necessary to have new dies and plates prepared. This was done, so that, strictly speaking, these stamps are not reprints, but official counterfeits. They differ from the originals in many points, the following being the most notable. They are slightly shorter and wider than the originals. The initials "R. W. H. & E." at the bottom of each stamp are quite indistinct and it is usually difficult to tell what some of the letters are intended to be. They may be further distinguished by the following points:

5c.—In the originals the background of the medallion is formed of vertical and horizontal lines: In the reprints the vertical lines are either very indistinct or entirely wanting. In the originals the left side of the white shirt frill touches the frame of the oval on a level with the top of the 'F" of "FIVE", while, in the reprints, it touches the oval opposite the top of the figure "5".

10c. - In the reprints the line of the mouth is too straight and there is a sleepy look about the eyes. The white collar is so heavily shaded as to be barely distinguishable from the collar of the coat. In the hair, near the left cheek, there is a lock which appears like a very small, white circle with a black dot in the center; this is not found in the originals. On the originals there are four horizontal lines between the "CE" of "CENTS" and the lower line of the central oval. On the reprints there are five lines in the same space, the upper line touching the oval and the lower one the top of the letters "CE".

ENVELOPE STAMPS.

1853-55.











Die 1.—This die has short labels with curved which come close to the inscriptions. There are ten loops in the ornamentation on the left side and nine on the right. (Fig. 52.)

3c. Die 2.-Short labels with straight ends. Eight and one-half loops on the left side and nine on the right. (Fig. 53)

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This die, with the inscription suitably altered, was also used for the six cent value and one of the ten cent values.

3c. Die 3.-Short labels with straight ends having a diagonal line at each corner. Eight and one half loops on the left side and nine on the right. (Fig. 54).

3c. Die 4.—The upper label is very long with straight ends. There

are seven loops on each side. (Fig. 55).

This die was also, used for the second die of the ten cent value, the proper alteration, of course, being made in the inscriptions.

3c Die 5. - The labels are as in die 1 but longer. There are nine loops on the left side and eight and one half on the right. (Fig. 56).

1857-60.

1c.—There are two distinct varieties of this stamp. One has a period after the word "POSTAGE" while the other lacks it. There are, also, several minor variations, both of this and the three cent value, which are solely dependent upon the relative position of the the bust in the central oval to the inscriptions. These, however, are not sufficiently prominent, or of enough interest, to warrant a detailed description in this connection.

1863.





sc. Die 1.-This variety, generally catalogued as "Large figure 2", has decidedly large and heavy numerals of value. The flag of the numeral joins the down stroke of the stem about one mm above its lower end. (Fig. 57).

2c. Die 2.—This, commonly known as the "Small figure 2", is easily distinguished from die 1 by the numeral of value. It is thinner and the flag starts abruptly from the lower end of the down stroke of the stem, leaving an appreciable space between the strokes. (Fig. 58.)

1870.





ic. Die 1.-This is the common die. The old fashioned choker which encircles Franklin's neck is decidedly notched where it meets the slope of the chin and, also, to a less degree, where it meets the bust. Thus showing a decided projection between the chin and the bust. (Fig. 59.)

1c. Die 2.-The projection between the chin and the bust is lacking, the choker forming a perfectly straight line between the two points. (Fig. 60.)

1874.





the frame as is the back which nearly touches the frame-line. The top of the head is much further from the frame-line than either point of the bust. The engine-turned work is very irregular; generally showing sharp outer ends

to the loops and many of the dots missing.

The "o" of "POSTAGE" has a large center, either plain or containing a small oval or dot. The "o" of "ONE" has a large center, with dot, scratch, small oval, or plain. The period after "u" is sometimes round, sometimes blurred. That after "s" is a triangle or blurred. There is much space above the numerals; the dots on the bottom bars are small and very near the border, but far from the stem. (Fig 61).

1875.

tc. Die B.—The workmanship is much superior to that of die A. The bust, also, is smaller and inclines forward much more. The spaces between the front, back, and top of the bust and the frame line are wide and nearly equal; the 'o" of "Postage" has an oval center which is crossed by two, intersecting lines. The left side of the "o" of "ONE" is too thick and its center is oval. The engine turning is more regular and the ends of the loops are more pointed than in die A. There is considerable space over the numerals and the dots on the lower bars are distant from the stem. The periods are both round. (Fig. 62).

1874.



Fig. 63.

2c. Die A.—The workmanship is very poor. The numerals, which are in circles, are very thin and badly shaped. They begin with a very small dot at the top and end with a line at the foot of the down stroke. The "o" of "POSTAGE" has a large round center which is crossed by two intersecting lines. The base of the bust has four square corners and the periods are nearly round. (Fig. 63).



Fig. 64

2c. Die B.—The workmanship is much superior to that of Die A. The numerals are in ovals instead of in circles and the "o" of "two" has a plain center. (Fig. 64).



Fig 65.

2c. Die B'.—This differs from die B only in that the tail of the left hand numeral of value touches the frame-line of the oval. (Fig. 65).



1874.

1874. 2c. Die B³.—Another variety of die B, and differing from it only in that the center of the "o" of "two" contains two crossed lines. (Pig. 66).

1875



Fig. 67.

2c. Die C.—This is a copy of die B but differs from it as follows: The inscription is heavier, and the central oval of the "o" of both "POSTAGE" and "Two" is small and narrower. (Fig. 67).

A variety of this die exists in which the bridge of the nose is higher, making its tip nearly double the regular size. The chin, also, is larger.

making its tip nearly double the regular size. The chin, also, is larger.

2c. Die C'.—Differing from die C only in that the tail of the left numeral touches the frame-line of the oval containing it.

1881.



Fig. 68.

2c. Die D.—This is a copy of die C, from which it is easily distinguished by the more youthful look of the head; the smaller ovals, and thinner numerals, through probably the most striking difference is in the lower part of the bust, which, in die C, is almost a straight line from the lower, front point until it reaches the projection at the back, where it forms almost a right angle and extends out to the lower, back corners. In this die this line forms an almoss exact quarter of a circle. (Fig 68).





Fig. 69



Fig 70

3c. Die A.—This die is easily distinguished by the large, slim numerals of value, which are contained in very large ovals, measuring 5½ mm. vertically by 4 mm horizontally. The lettering, also, is rather slim and poorly executed. (Fig. 69).

3c Die B.—The ovals are smaller; the numerals are broader and more squatty and the lettering is heavier than in die A. (Fig 70).

1881.



Fig. 71.

3c. Die C.—A copy of die B. The head is more pointed and its top point is nearer the frame-line. The forehead and eyebrow are more prominent, as is also, the depression in front of the eye. The base of the bust is shorter; more rounded at the back; very square in front and further from the frame. The "o" of "POSTAGE" has a large, oval center; the numerals are poorly shaped and the knot of the queue, being more rounded, projects more. (Fig. 71).



Fig. 72.



1876.

3c.—There are two varieties of this die; the first, commonly known as the "Hartford Die", (Fig. 72), has a single line under the word "POSTAGE". The second, known as the "Philadelphia Die" (Fig. 73) has a double line under "POSTAGE".

A variety of the former has been chronicled wherein the "1" of "1776" has no serif but, as this "variety" is solely the result of poor printing it is hardly eligible for a place in a collection aiming to show merely die, or plate, varieties.





5c. Die A.—The numeral of value has a large dot; the back is heavy and the inside colored space is small. The top stroke is short and heavy, measuring 11/2 mm., and the lower edge of it curves off from the straight vertical stroke, and round again at the end, forming a double curve. A line continued upward in the direction of the straight vertical stroke of the left numeral shows the points of five loops of the network to the left of it. (Fig. 74). numerals are nearly alike.

5c. Die B.-The dot of the numeral is large but the back is not so heavy; the colored space inside is larger and its curves more abrupt. The top stroke is a little longer and makes a sharp angle with the straight vertical stroke but curves around at the end Only three points show to the left of a line drawn as before. The right hand numeral is different and apparently the vertical stroke would cross the middle of the dot if prolonged. (Fig. 75).

5c. Die C.—The dot is much smaller; back like B; colored space much broader than in B; curves, however, are similar. Upper stroke still longer, measuring about 2 mm., and makes a sharp angle with the vertical stroke and is terminated by a diagonal line. The right numeral is like the left numeral of B, but the inside colored space is slightly larger and the top stroke thinner.

1874.





10c. Die A.-Dimensions 28x30 mm. The head, which is upright and very large, nearly fills the central oval. The queue ends with the lower line of the bust, the lower front point of which is very close to the frame and rounded. The numerals are long and thin and the "o" of "POSTAGE" has a large rounded, central oval. (Fig. 76).

1875.

10c. Die B.-Demensions 27x29 mm. The head, which inclines forward, is smaller. The queue ends above the back of the bust, forming a large and square projection beyond it. The numerals are poorly formed and quite heavy, the " 1" having a flat top. (Fig. 77).

1881.





4c. Die A.—The numerals of value at the sides measure about 2¾ mm, across at their widest part. The left numeral comes to a sharp point where the cross stroke and the downward, slanting stroke meet. The points of the lower label, containing the words "FOUR CENTS", stop short at the lower line of the third loop below the oval containing the numeral of value. The points of the upper label, containing the words "U. S. POSTAGE", cut completely through the fourth loop above the oval containing the numeral and are well over in the outer end of the loops There are 87 points in the outer circle divided by the ovals so that there are 43 points above and 44 below. There are 85 points in the inner circle, divided as above, so that there are 42 above the ovals and 43 below Some of these points, where the frame of the oval containing the numeral cuts them off, show only a portion of a loop; in some cases only a dot. All of these are included in the above count. (Fig. 78).

4c Die B.—The numerals of value are noticeably larger, measuring about 3¼ mm. at their widest part. The numerals are both rounded where the cross and the downward, slanting strokes meet. The left point of the lower label does not stop at the lower line of the third loop below the oval, but cuts through it and fully half way through the loop itself. The left point of the upper label cuts only about half way through the fourth loop above the oval and both points of the label are much nearer the center of the loop than in die A. I here are 93 points in both the outer and inner circles, divided by the ovals so that there are 47 points above and 46 below. (Fig.

79).

1884.

June.

2c — This, commonly known as the "Retouched Die," differs from the original, issued in November, 1883, as follows:

In the original die the lines are all clear, smooth and continuous, but so fine that there is a tendency in the ink to cover parts of the embossed work and to leave spots without color on the groundwork, particularly in the diamonds above the right hand oval. In the "retouched die" the ornamental pairs of wavy lines are no longer continuous and present a series of short arcs, not always meeting and frequently the two rows of either pair touch and run into each other. One side of the impression is generally more changed than the other.

Twenty-one varieties of this die, due either to successive retouching, wear, or action of the ink upon the plates, have been described but, of these, only three seem to be worthy of being listed. They can easily be distinguished by the following differences:—

- 2c. Var. A.—Commonly known as the "Two link variety". Here there are but two links, or diamonds, between the right oval and the label below it.
- 2c. Var. B.—Commonly known as the "Three and a half link variety". There are three and one-half links, or diamonds, between the left oval and the label above it.
- 2c. Var. C.—Commonly known as the "Round O variety". In this variety the "o" in "Iwo" is very round and the lines above the letters "wo" run together.

July.



Fig. 80.



Fig. 81

2c. Die A—Commonly known as the "Kellogg Die". The distinguishing feature of this die is that the lower end of the bust, below the queue, ends in a sharp point, (Fig. 80).

2c. Die B.—This also known as the "Kellogg Die", of which it is a variety, may be differentiated from die A by the extremity of the bust, which, below the queue, is quite rounded instead of pointed. (Fig. 81).

1887.

ac.—The chin is pronounced and double; below it is the Adam's apple, not very pronounced and running into the collar.

1895.

1c. Var. A.—This differs from the last as follows: Both the double chin and the Adam's apple are very pronounced, the latter being separated from the collar, which does not seem to project as far forward, by an heavy line of color. The most noticeable point, however, is a small, colorless triangle, or spur, which projects downwards from the lower part of the bust about 2 mm from its forward end, and from which it takes its name of the "spur die".

sharp corners. This, upon the lower corner, is so apparent as to fill in the space between it and the spur of Var. A and, as the lower, back end of the bust projects slightly outwards and downwards, it leaves a depression be-

tween it and the spur; whence its name of the "scoop die".

rc. Var. C.—The Adam's apple is very indistinct but, unl ke all other similar dies, there is quite a pronounced nick between the chin and the slope of the bust. In other particulars it closely resembles Var. B but, between the spur and the back of the bust, there is another excresence, rounded this time, thus forming two depressions instead of one. The lower line of the bust is, in fact, best described as wavy and irregular. It is known as the "double scoop die".

1887.



Fig. 82.



Fig. 8a

1887. 2c. Die A.—The front of the bust points to the third tooth "of the frame-line. The "G" of "POSTAGE" has no cross-bar and there are 72 points in the outer frame-line and 47 in the inner. (Fig. 82).

points in the outer frame-line and 47 in the inner. (Fig. 82).

2c. Die B.—The front of the bust points to the second tooth of the frame line. The "G" of "POSTAGE" has a cross-bar and there are 67 points in the outer frame-line and 47 in the inner. (Fig. 83).

There is a variety of this die in which the bust is noticeably larger.

1895.

2c. Die C.-A variety of the last from which it differs only in having a small, square and colorless cap upon the top of the numeral of value immediately under the central point of the shield Specimens are, also, known in which this cap is a little to the right of the centre of the numeral.

2c. Die D .- This differs from die B only in lacking almost the entire

top frame line of the shield containing the numeral of value.

1887.





5c. Die A. - There is a space between the beard and the coat collar and the latter shows a button. (Fig. 84).

1894.

5c. Die B.-This differs from the last as follows: The bust of General Grant has no neck, the lines of the chin and bust meeting at a sharp angle. The front end of the bust is, also, wider; the bottom flatter; the back more rounded and further away from the frame line; the hair is so arranged that a lock falls over the forehead; the eyebrow is less prominent and there is no button upon the coat. (Fig. 85).

The dies for this, the Columbian series may be divided into four varieties, as follows:

Var. 1.—Period after "CENTS". A meridian back of Columbus' head. Var. 2 .- Period after "CENTS". No meridian back of Columbus' head.

Var. 3.—No period after "CENTS". Meridian back of Columbus' head.
Var. 4.—No period after "CENTS". No meridian back of Columbus' head.

The one cent value is known in Var. 1, 2 and 3.

The two cent and the five cent values are known in all four varieties, and the ten cent value is only known as Var. 3.

1899





2c. Die A.—Size 25x28 mm. There are 71 teeth in the outer, serrated frame line and 39 in the inner. The "A" of "STATES" is too short; the "c" and "E" of "CENTS" are very close together and the former is small and very close to the frame line of the shield. The colorless line forming the inner frame to the inscribed band meets the diagonal lines at the upper part of the shield just above their junction with the concave side lines of the shield; this is particularly noticeable upon the right side. The upper corners of the shield, as well as its central apex, are quite pointed and the framelines connecting them are deeply concaved, while the shield is 6 mm. wide at

the bottom. The bust of Washington is poorly executed; tips slightly forward, and shows a pronounced protuberance on the top of the head. Its forward point is rounded and almost vertical, pointing barely to the left of the shield. The lower line is almost straight, there being only the slightest

suspicion of concavity. (Fig. 86).

2c. Die B.—Size 24¾x29 mm. There are 74 teeth in the outer and 4t in the inner serrated line. The "A" of "STATES" is of proper size; the "c" and "E" of "CENTS" are better spaced and the former is larger and further from the frame of the shield. The colorless inner frame line of the inscribed band intersects the diagonal lines of the shield exactly at their junction with the concave side lines; the upper corners and central apex of the shield are, comparatively, much less pointed than in die A and the framelines connecting them are less concaved. The shield is 51/2 mm wide at the bottom. The bust is well shaped and correctly placed in the oval; there is no protuberance on the top of the head; the forward end of the bust is more pointed, not so vertical, and points at the second tooth of the inner, serrated frame, while the lower line is pronouncedly curved and concave. (Fig. 87).

2c. Die C.—This differs from the last in having no ribbon around the queue. It is very marked; the flowing lines of the hair being clear and dis-

tinct the entire length of the neck.







4c. Die A.-There are 77 teeth in the outer, serrated frame and 42 in the inner. The bust ends in front at a sharp point directly above the space between the first and second teeth of the inner, serrated line, and it is undraped. (Fig. 88).

4c. Die B.-The forelock is longer and projects farther from the forehead. The beard has an additional tuft projecting from the under part of the chin; the end of the bust, in front, is squared off and points at the third tooth of the inner, serrated line; it is, also, draped and the necktie projects

quite prominently. (Fig. 89)
4c. Die C.—The bust is slightly larger and much better drawn than in either of the preceeding dies. The forelock and beard are more rounded and the whole face presents a much more natural appearance. The bust is square in front and points to the "u" of "FOUR". There are 66 points in the outer, serrated frame and the inner one has been eliminated entirely to allow for the extra space occupied by the enlarged bust. The shape of the upper portion of the shield, containing the numeral of value, is slightly altered and the side ornaments have a distinct, central dot instead of being solid. (Fig. 90).

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Some Stamp Designs.

C. A. Howes.

(Continued from page 269.)

The State of North Borneo, in spite of the speculative character of its more recent issues and the odium which the methods of the Company have attached to them, has really given us some very fine stamps, which are the more interesting as they are distinctly local in their character. Borneo was first visited by the Portuguese, but it was colonized by the Dutch though they never attempted any occupation of the northern part. The East India Company once undertook a settlement there but it was very short-lived and nothing further was accomplished until James Prooke visited Sarawak in

1839 40.

In view of our recent acquisition of the Philippines, it may be interesting to note that there was an opportunity for Uncle Sam to have obtained posses sion of North Borneo at about the same time that Alaska was purchased A certain Mr. Moses, then American Consul at Brunei, on the northwest coast, obtained from the Sultan of Brunei (pronounced Broo ni), in 1865, a large concession of territory and transferred his rights to an American trading company. Had this company succeeded we might be in possession of North Borneo as well as the neighboring archipelago. The concession, of course, lapsed with the failure of the company, but it was revived by a syndicate of Englishmen in 1877, who applied for a royal charter. This was granted on November 1, 1881 and, in May, 1882, the British North Borneo Company was formed and has since administered the territory which has been enlarged by further acquisitions both from the Sultan of Brunei, who formerly ruled all the northwest coast, and the Sultan of Sulu who claimed the east coast.

Being possessed of sovereign rights it could, of course, issue postage stamps, and these were not long in appearing. They were issued in May, 1883, just a year after the incorporation of the Company, and bear the coat-of-arms adopted by the directors. An excellent illustration of these arms in their entirety is found on the current twenty-four cent stamp. For the



"chief" we find a gold band charged with a red lion—being in fact one of the lions from the English coat of arms, only, in the latter case, it is a gold lion on a red field. This stands for "British" while the sea-view beneath with the representation of a Malay proa under sail represents "North Borneo".

Note.—In speaking of Mr. Thurston, whose portrait is on the Hawaiian official stamps, it was inadvertently stated, in the last paper, that he was Minister of the Interior under Kamehameha; it should have been Kalakaua.

The crest shows two arms, one of a civilized man and the other of a native, upholding the Company's flag—the red lion again on a yellow field. For supporters there are two natives, one with parang or sword and the other with a talabang or shield. The motto beneath, "PERGO ET PERAGO", is quite appropriate as it means simply "I undertake and accomplish".



A better representation of one of the natives appears on the one cent stamp. This is a Dyak, one of the aboriginal inhabitants of Borneo who are all offshoots of the Malay race. The term Dyak has been used as a general name for the natives but it is claimed that it belongs only to a few tribes living in and near Sarawak. At any rate the picture shows the usual mode of dress, or lack of it. for the only garment is a strip of cloth, some six yards or so in length, which is twisted around the waist and the ends allowed to hang down before and behind This is called a chawat by the Malays, who make up a considerable portion of the population, and a sirat by the Dyaks. A brilliantly embroidered and fringed flap is often sewed to either end of the sirat, these being usually made by the Malays. On the head is a turban or labong and the usual decorations in the shape of ear rings; necklace of beads and animals' teeth, and armlets and leglets of wood, metal, ivory or plaited fibre can be seen. In his right hand is his parang, a sort of scimitar of steel to which he knows how to impart a fine temper, and his left hand grasps its scabbard, made of some light wood and usually stained red. Pendant from the sword handle and on the scabbard are tufts of human hair, also generally stained red.





The eight cent stamp shows a couple of the native boats. The larger is a Sea Dyak canoe, evidently of the "dug-out" variety. These are sometimes a hundred feet long and made from a single trunk. Such a canoe will accommodate one hundred men, two abreast, who ply their paddles on either side simultaneously. Sometimes they use square or lateen sails made of the plaited leaves of the nipa palm but more often not. The arms on the six cent stamp show a Malay proa or prau. This is built of timber and has a gallery at each side in which the padders sit cross legged. In the after part is a cabin for the commander and the whole vessel is surmounted by a strong flat roof from which they fight. The sail, formerly made of matting of nipa palm leaves, is now generally replaced by light canvas, and the rigging, formerly of rattan, has been replaced by rope.



But one stamp gives us any distinctive feature of North Bornean scenery, largely for the reason that most of the coast territory is comparatively flat and the interior has as yet been but little explored There is an irregular range of hills or low mountains following the coast-line of the northwest and not far inland, and the eighteen cent stamp shows us the one great mountain of this chain, which lifts its huge proportions nearly 14,000 feet above the sea. This is Mount Kinabalu, and the fact that it is only about twenty-five miles from the coast and nearly three times the height of any neighbors makes it a most conspicuous object, it being said that it can be seen one hundred and fifty miles at sea in clear weather. It appears from a distance almost like a table mountain, though its top is not flat but extremely rugged and finishes off abruptly in sheer precipi es of ten thousand feet on the side toward the sea. The mountain is nearly always visible until about nine o'clock in the forenoon when clouds begin to gather around it and thicken until the whole is enveloped in mist It remains hidden until nearly sunset when deluges of rain clear the atmosphere and it re appears in time for a parting glance from the orb of day. During the night the mountain is free from vapor and forms a most magnificent sight when the moon is full.

The name Kina Balu means "Chinese Widow" and the legend is that in former times its summit was the residence of a female spirit of great beauty, of whom a Chinese prince of Brunei (before the time of its conversion to Mohammedanism) became enamored. Wishing to obtain her in marriage, he made a journey, with the intention of visiting her residence but losing his footing, he fell over one of the rocky precipices near the top and was killed. Thereupon the spirit became known as the Widow of the (hinaman and the mountain was named after her. The view on the stamp is taken from a drawing by Frank S Marryat, a mid shipman on H. M. S. Samarang, which surveyed these coasts in 1844, and shows the mountain and its foot-hills as seen from the mouth of the Tampassuk river which rises on its slopes.



A glimpse of river scenery is given on the sixteen cent stamp recently issued, which also gave the first intimation most of us had that there was a railway in North Borneo. Such is the fact, however, the project being started in 1896 to connect the west and east coasts. Curiously enough it runs nowhere near Sandakan, the capital and largest town of North Borneo, but starts at Weston, a small town on Brunei Bay at the extreme western limits of the Company's territory, and runs some twenty miles into the interior to Beaufort Junction. This was the first section built and the first train ran

over it on February 3, 1898. Since then a line has been built from Beaufort to Jesselton, a fine port on Gaya Bay, about midway along the northeast coast, which was turned over by the contractors on March 8, 1902. This section is 57 miles long Beyond Beaufort, in a southeast direction, the railway runs some thirty miles to Fort Birch in the interior, and this is the present terminus though it is the intention to continue it eventually to Cowie Harbor on St. Lucia Bay, the southern limit of the 6 ompany's territory. The present line follows the Bukau river from Weston and the Padas river from Beaufort to Fort Birch and it is at some point on one of these rivers that the view shown as must have been taken.



On the three cent stamp is a good illustration of a sago palm. This tree is indigenous and its pith forms one of the staple foods of the inhabitants, though they seem to prefer rice when they can get it. The palm grows but little over thirty feet in height and attains maturity in seven or eight years. If left to itself it then flowers and fruits, which process takes two years more, and, when the fruit is ripened it dies. The large spreading terminal spike of flowers can be seen in the illustration, and its surroundings illustrate the fact that it grows in marshy places. The sago of commerce is the pith of the tree and is in its best condition when the palm is just ready to flower. At this time the tree is cut down, the trunk slit lengthwise and the pith scraped out. It is then taken to a vat where water is poured over it and the mixture trodden, the resulting milky looking liquid being collected and allowed to settle. When the water is poured off the starchy residue is dried and packed in bags and then sold, generally to Chinamen who prepare it for the market.







Of the fauna of Borneo we have several examples; the first being the mias or orang-utan, one of the anthropoid, or man-like, apes. This is the original "wild man of Borneo" for his name in the Malayan tongue (spelled a ang-outang by the Dutch) means simply "man of the woods" or 'wild man". It is found only in Borneo and Sumatra and is less man-like than the chimpanzee or gorilla. It lives wholly in the trees but when compelled to descend, it does not walk on all fours for it cannot place the soles of its feet flat upon the ground, it then uses its arms, which are very long, comparatively, in the same manner as we use crutches, by swinging the body between them. The orang is not generally over four and a half feet in height but is very powerful, and though peaceable can give a good account

of itself when brought to bay. The Dyaks say it is not attacked by other animals except the python and crocodile and these it kills by tearing with its hands

Another animal peculiar to Borneo is shown on the ten cent stamp. This is the Bornean bruang or sun-bear, the smallest of its kind. Its fur is smooth and black with the exception of a yellow throat patch like a mustard plaster, which can be noted in the illustration. It is more in the habit of walking upright than any other species, and is so excellent a tree climber that nothing seems to baffle it. It is practically a vegetarian and, being fond of cocoanuts, works great havoc among plantations if not watched, often killing the trees by eating off the succulent terminal bud. Its chief delicacy is honey, however, and from this fact it is often called the honey bear. It possesses an extremely long and flexible tongue, which can be seen in the picture, and can thus get at the stored sweets in the hives it discovers. It is easily tamed and proves gentle and playful

The two cent stamp shows us the head and antiers of the common brown deer, called by the Malays the *rusa*. It affords much sport for Europeans but the flesh is coarse and not well liked, though the Malays are very fond of it. It is a large deer and the longest antiers recorded measured thirty-one inches over the outer curve. As the stamp shows, such a head would make

a fine trophy.





The five cent stamp shows the wondrous Argus pheasant—not a peacock, as I have several times seen it stated. This bird owes its beauty to the extraordinary development of the wing feathers which grow nearly three feet long and are beautifully spotted with metallic, iridescent, eye like spots, so shaded as to give the appearance of balls lying in sockets. Besides the wing feathers two of the tail feathers are enormously extended so that they sometimes measure five or six feet. These ornaments are borne only by the male and are used, as in the case of similar birds, to captivate the female. When fully displayed the two wings are spread out to form a huge fan behind which rise the two long tail feathers, as seen on the stamp. The bird is only about the size of a hen and its general plumage is a mottled brown.

Of the crocodile, a fierce specimen of which is seen on the twelve cent stamp, it is hardly necessary for us to say much except that it abounds in

many of the rivers and grows to a very large size.

The surcharge 'BRITISH PROTECTORATE," which appeared in 1901 on all the stamps under a dollar, was nothing but a bare-faced request to collectors to buy another set of stamps, inasmuch as the Company's territory was taken under Her Majesty's protection five years before the pictorial issue first appeared. On May 12, 1888, the terms of the Protectorate were signed and the previous designation of "British North Borneo" changed officially to "The State of North Borneo." The change was not made on the stamps, however, until the pictorial set was issued at the beginning of 1893. The necessity for the Protectorate surcharge over fifteen years "after the fact" is,

of course, only philatelically apparent.

The island of Labuan, at the entrance of Brunei Bay, was ceded by the Sultan, in 1846, to Great Britain, which established a small colony there as a base for operations against the Malay pirates who were doing much injury to commerce. In 1890 the administration of the colony was intrusted to the British North Borneo Company, which is the reason the Company's stamps are surcharged for Labuan. Perhaps the next joke that will be sprung from London will be a Labuan set surcharged "NORTH BORNEO ADMINISTRATION".

While on the subject of Borneo we cannot pass by the territory of Sarawak, whose history is, perhaps, unique and is due solely to the initiative of one man-James Brooke. He was the son of an employée of the East India Company and was born April 29, 1803, at Secrore the European suburb of Benares. He was educated in England and when but sixteen received an ensign's commission in the Madras Native Infantry in which he was promoted and, later. served in the war in Burmah. In 1835 his father died leaving him a small fortune and thus enabling him to carry out a project already formed; which was a voyage of exploration in Eastern seas. Accordingly he bought the was a voyage of exploration in Eastern seas. yacht Royalist. fitted her up as a sloop of war and left England, in 1838, for Singapore. There he learned of the action of a certain Rajah Muda Hassim. uncle of the Sultan of Brunei, who had kindly treated a shipwrecked English crew and sent them safely to Singapore. Such action on the part of Borneans who were supposed to be in league with the pirates aroused the interest of the Singapore merchants and Brooke was requested to call at Sarawak, where Hissim was, and deliver to the Malay prince a letter and presents from the Chamber of Commerce.



During the first half of the nineteenth century nearly all of northwestern Borneo was subject to the Sultan of Brunei, then the most powerful potentate outside the Dutch territory. When Brooke arrived in Borneo the Sultan Omar Ali was on the throne, but his rule had become little more than nominal. as each chief in the different districts exercised almost unlimited power and paid little or no attention to the central government. At this time the Malays of Sarawak had broken out into revolt against their Governor and the Sultan had sent his uncle to quell the disturbance Brooke found the Rajah at Sarawak, where he had been for some time and had accomplished nothing; he was well received, did some exploring and returned to Singapore. The next year he again visited Sarawak and found the same state of affairs, and this time Muda Hassim entreated his help in quelling the rebellion, promising him the country, its government and trade if he would only stop and help To this Brooke agreed and finally succeeded in patching up a peace between the Rajah and the natives; but when his reward came it was found to be a document permitting him to trade only. This did not discourage Brooke, however, who looked after his own interests so well that in September, 1841, the formal document giving him the government of the district of Sarawak was delivered, and was later ratified by the Sultan of Brunei. Brooke then took the Indian title of Rajah and settled down to the government of his

new and strange possessions.

In 1848 on account of his assistance in putting down piracy on the Bornean coast, Brooke was knighted and is, therefore, known as Sir James. The curious flag of Sarawak represents the Brooks coat of-arms – a yellow flag bearing a Greek cross divided vertically in the centre, the left half being

black and the right half red.

The results of his government are thus summed up by A. R. Wallace: "Sir James Brooke found the Dyaks oppressed and ground down by the most cruel tyranny of the Malays Anything like justice or redress was utterly unattainable. From the time Sir James obtained possession of the country all this was stopped. Equal justice was awarded to Malay, Chinaman and Dyak. The remorseless pirates from the rivers further east were punished and finally shut up within their own territories and the Dyak, for the first time, could sleep in peace. The unknown stranger who had done all this for them and asked nothing in return they concluded was a superior be-

ing come down upon earth to confer blessings upon the afflicted.

"In forming a proper estimate of Sir James Brooke's government it must ever be remembered that he held Sarawak solely by the good will of the native inhabitants He had to deal with two races, one of whom, the Mahometan Malays, looked upon the other race, the Dyaks, as savages and slaves fit only to be plundered. He effectually protected the latter and placed them on an equal footing with the Malays, and yet he secured the affection and good will of both. That his government continued in spite of Malay conspiracies and insurrections of Chinese gold diggers, all of which were overcome by the support of the native population and in spite of financial, political and domestic troubles, is due, I believe, solely to the many admirable qualties which Sir James Brooke possessed and especially to his having convinced the native population that he ruled them for their own good. The universal testimony of all who came in contact with him in his adopted country, whether European, Malay or Dyak, was that Rajah Brooke was a great, a wise and a good ruler a true and faithful friend, a man to be admired for his talents, respected for his honesty and courage, and loved for his genuine hospitality, his kindness of disposition and his tenderness of heart."

The features of his novel ruler are shown on the first issue of Sarawak. The letters in the corners, J B R S, of course, stand for James Brooke, Rajah

of Sarawak.







Sir James died in England of paralysis on June 11, 1868. Having no heir, he bequeathed the sovereignty of Sarawak to his nephew, Charles Anthony Johnson, who assumed his uncle's surname, and is now known as Sir Charles Brooke. The issue of 1871 shows the letters C B R S in the corners for Charles Brooke, Rajah of Sarawak. Later portraits of the Rajah are shown on the issues of 1889 and 1892. Sir Charles has carried out the policies of his predecessor and has largely augmented his possessions by further acquisitions from the Sultan of Brunei, who has now but little of his

former domains left. Of the government Sir Charles writes: "I am assisted by a Council of six, composed of the two chief European residents and four natives, nominated by myself from the leading natives of the district. Besides this Supreme Council there is a General Council of about fifty in which the leading European and native residents of the various districts have seats. This Council meets once every three years, or oftener if required. Sarawak is divided, for administrative purposes, into eight districts, corresponding to the number of principal river basins in the country. There are three chief districts, presided over by European officers who have power to call upon the natives for military service. In each district the European officers are assisted by native officials, who administer justice among the divers races living in Sarawak. The extraordinary feature of the whole system is that the government is carried on by so little force."

In 1888, at the time a Protectorate was assumed over North Borneo, Great Britain also declared a Protectorate over Sarawak and Brunei. In each case the internal administration is left to the Rajah or the Sultan, but all foreign relations are conducted by His Majesty's Government. In due time they will also probably be erected into colonies and become integral

make the control of t

parts of the British Empire.



Our English Letter.

BY EDWARD J. NANKIVELL.

LONDON, 26, September, 1903.

The Straits Settlements, with all its postal eccentricities, claims to be the model post office of the world so far as the cheapness of postal facilities are concerned. Postcards, available in the colony and to the Federated Malay States, are sold at one-fifth of a penny each; the letter rate of postage throughout the same area is only slightly over a half-penny; the postage on letters to any place (with very few exceptions) in the British Empire is four-fifths of a penny per one-half ounce; up to two ounces of printed matter can be sent to any part of the civilised world for one-fifth of a penny. This will be a revelation to most people outside the fortunate colony.

There was a time when the stamps of the Straits Settlements were great favorites with specialists and when its rarities fetched long prices, but the colony has played fast and loose with its varieties, like Ceylon, and surcharge after surcharge disgusted and ultimately choked off many collectors. Its indulgence in surcharges was so scandalous that its postal authorities eventually got deservedly rapped over the knuckles for the practice by the Marquis of Ripon, then Colonial Secretary.

Nevertheless, it is an interesting country from a philatelic point of view. It has been treated to a special handbook by my old friend Mr William Brown, and it is unquestionably full of scarce varieties. Its interesting first issue, surcharged with a crown on the then current Indian stamps is a very nice set to get, and not at all an expensive one. In fine unused, well centred condition, it is not often seen complete, but as the highest priced one of the lot only runs up to 50s, it is a set that can be made up by the patient collector and some of these days will be much prized in fine condition. It is these old issues that repay the patient collector for his years of persistent search. They turn up occasionally at auctions and in exchange clubs but they are more frequently than not off centre. Very few dealers can show sets unused, for the very good reason that when really fine copies of the scarcer 4c, and 6c, turn up they know where to place them without putting them in their stock books.

There are, in fact, many stamps of the better class of which really fine copies rarely ever pass around in dealers stock books, for the very good reason that most dealers know where to immediately place them. The great collections, from exhibition and occasional private inspection, are well known to the leading dealers, and blanks are specially noted. Cute members of the trade are ever on the look-out for good copies to fill those well-known blanks, and in such-a competition the ordinary man stands no chance. But the patient collector who cannot compete with his long-pocketed confreres in such cases can, by persistent search, often pick up grand copies at bargain

rates. Indeed this element of stamp collecting is one of its charms, for it means that even the most poverty stricken collector may, by patience, often secure what the millionaire may fail to add to his collection even with the help of his many wide awake dealer friends. Knowledge and patience are the equipments that tell in stamp collecting even where the all powerful mighty dollar fails.

New Zealands still require and will probably repay close watching despite the impatient diatribes of Mr Castle In recent varieties there are very distinct shades of the 1s The first issue on the new NZ. and star paper was a brown red. The current shade is a bright vermilion The brown shade should be secured while it may be had at current rates.

Other changes seem to loom up largely for the future of the same colony. The houses of legislature have passed a bill giving the Governor power to put the metric system in force. If that power be exercised, then we shall have a change from pence to cents with a grand topsy turvey in the stamps. Then the impatient ones will go quite off their heads, and New Zealand will be more than ever cut off from federation with the Australian Commonwealth.

I have not heard that anybody has fallen very deeply in love with the new Australian Commonwealth stamp The 9d sent out as a specimen of what a pig-headed Postmaster General can do in the direction of trailing the art of a colony in the mire of commonplace is a most ludicrously amateurish production. Any advanced pupil in a drawing school of design would deserve to be well birched for producing such an abnormity.

I would say as little as possible about the result of the Official stamp prosecution. Walter Richards and Creeke have been treated as principals in the wretched business and have been sentenced to six months imprisonment each but they have been punished, not for trafficing in official stamps, but for being concerned in the mutilation of stamps for philatelic purposes. Richards managed, by mutilation, to get certain high value "officials" which were apparently turned over to Creeke for sale to philatelists, and for this they have been punished. It is very sad from a philatelic point of view that such an able philatelist as Mr Creeke should have fallen under the law in this manner. It will spell ruin to him. He will no doubt be struck off the rolls as a solicitor and thus be prevented from practising his profession and, although he is now only an honorary member of the Philatelic Society of London the Council will probably have to face the painful necessity of considering the impossibility of retaining his name on the list of the Society. After a man has done so much for the Society as he has unquestionably done it will be a very hard case. He has produced, with the late Mr. Hastings Wright, what will long remain the magnum opus of the society. I do not envy my fellow members in the task that lies before them.

it settles down to a permanent series. We have had a first issue on Indian Queen's heads, and now comes the news that this is to be followed by a series of King's head Indian stamps. Then we are to have the permanent type.

The philatelic opening up of these new countries, by the way, is not an unmixed evil. They afford a convenient starting point for new collectors who wish to begin with a country that is not overloaded with expensive old issues. Those who started thus with British East Africa have no cause for regret. The 1895 issue on the Company's stamps was to be had complete, when current, for £2.140 the set. It is now catalogued for £35.

On the other side of the account we have the postal amalgamation of British East Africa and Uganda and the consequent issue of a new King's head series labelled "East Africa and Uganda Protectorates." This closes the catalogue account with Uganda, a matter which some specialists will probably regret, for the type written first issues are among the growing rarities of the day.

A great deal may be said that is plausible about seeing the beginning and end of a country and completing it, but experience shows those countries that have dropped out of the stamp issuing list have a tendency to languish with a decreased following. Look at the many defunct States of Europe and also of Italy. How many go in for them? How often are they the subject of philatelic conversation compared to the live countries? Despite the anamethas of a few old philatelic fossils, new issues, with all their faults, and they are admittedly many, are an immense advertising power, and will continue to be so.

Some excellent old folks are wedded to the old issues, and it goes against the grain for them to admit that they can ever see any good in new issues. They belong to the antique. They are cast in that unalterable mould of thought and feeling that lives in the past and is always moaning in pitiable lamentations over the shortcomings of the present. They have a habit, too, of regarding the followers of new issues with ostentatious and sorrowing contempt, and they generate anything but a pleasant comradeship. On the other hand, the new issue folks say unkind things about the old issues and do much to create a division in the rank of philatelists that need never exist,

These extremists are a trouble to any and every hobby.

In philately there is ample room for each and all of us to follow our own bents and yet recognise a common bond of sympathy in the one hobby. The antique imagine themselves to be the aristocracy of philately. Theirs are the great historic rarities, whilst the rarities of the new issue class are but the doubtful upstarts of a day and may be toppled from their pedestals at any time, whereas the old rarities are established by the infallible test of time. Ah, well! let them nurse their old loves, no one will deny the grandeur of the old historic gems of philately, but they must, if they would escape recriminations,

cultivate a little more sympathy with fellow collectors who prefer, for various reasons to which they are well entitled, to make their choice from the newer countries, and so associate themselves more with the living present.

I note that a contemporary of yours has raised anew the controversy as to the use of the word 'mint" as applied to the issue state of a postage stamp. As the original sinner, for, as I have pointed out before, the word was first so used in my letter to the A. J. P., I see no objection to the appropriation of the word for philatelic purposes. Anyhow, it has caught on, and is now practically an indispensable philatelic term in daily use. What would our auction cataloguers do without it? Moreover, I find the use of the term is being even further extended. This week for instance, I read in the Times newspaper of the "Baconian mint". Besides, the little word expresses so much in so little. We might say "in issue state", but "mint" alone is enough and the fact that it has passed so quickly and so readily into general acceptance as an expressive philatelic term is sufficient warrant for its use. It is now simply a word the meaning of which has been widened for more general use.

LONDON, 3 October, 1903.

Mr. Castle has, in the last number of the London Philatelist, indulged in a wholesale and ill considered condemnation of all and sundry new issues of New Zealand. A more unwise article, or one based on more flimsy reasoning, I have not read, even in the London Philatelist. To begin with, as he deliberately charges a responsible colonial government with venal practices, he should have taken the sense of a meeting of the members of the Philatelic Society of London before he used the Society's organ to put forth such a charge in its name, for, as the article is published in the Society's journal unsigned, it will naturally be inferred that the charges are made and published on the authority of the Society.

After commenting on the numerous varieties which are to be found in recent New Zealand issues Mr. Castle says: "In our humble opinion," that is in the humble opinion of the Philatelic Society of London, "the New Zealand Post Office casts a grave shadow upon the reputation of Colonial adminitration," and then, as if that did not go far enough, he finally declares it to be more venal than the "most venal of the South American States." If the New Zealand authorities do not take up this insulting charge seriously I shall be very much surprised, and I shall be even more surprised if many members of the Society do not resent this misrepresentation of their views.

Now what is the basis of all this furore? Some five years ago New Zealand got Messrs. Waterlow to design and engrave a very handsome series of postage stamps, all more or less illustrative of local scenery. The engraving was done on the finest steel plates. A first supply, by way of showing what such plates could produce, was printed by the engravers themselves. Then the plates and an expert to initiate the local printers into the secrets of fine art printing from high class steel plates, were sent out to the colony. It was

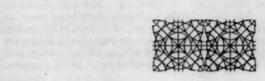
a plucky thing for the local men to tackle printing from such fine plates, but they have succeeded wonderfully well. Nevertheless, they found the task a very difficult one, and, in their struggle to equal the English workmanship, they have successively tried various papers, as every printing office does. The perforation of paper dampened for steel-plate printing also presented great difficulties, and consequently a new and finer guage machine was ordered from home. In this way we have had four different papers and two different gauge machines, and the consequent varieties therefrom. And for this Mr. Castle, forsooth, bedaubs the New Zealand Postal administration as being more venal than the most venal of the South American States.

There is not a shadow of evidence that the New Zealand Postal authorities have rung the changes on these happenings for money making purposes. Any one who knows anything at all about the difficulties of steel plate printing will appreciate the task that the local printers undertook and wonder that they have done so well and produced the stamps so uniformly. One would, under the circumstances, have expected no end of variation in the printings, and yet the shades are, except in a very few cases, very close. And as to the varieties of paper, the experimenting has practically been confined to the onehalf penny and one penny values. If the changes were being rung on the papers for revenue purposes it would have been a very easy thing, and also a very plausibly excusable thing, to have rung the changes of paper on all the values instead of confining them to the one-half penny and one penny values. But nothing of the sort has happened. And then as to perforations: there are only two machines in use; one 11 and the other 14. There could not be much less to complain of. But, ah! terrible to relate, there have been all sorts of dodges in double perforations. It is very sad, of course, but I understand that, owing to the very bad perforation of one or two sheets, they were saved from destruction by pasting strips along the misplaced perforation and re-perforating those lines. Of course that was a terribly venal bit of business.

It is all very well to wax wroth over real cases of venal postal dodges for milking collectors, but it is neither dignified nor reputable to lose one's temper over mere fancies conjured up by a disturbed imagination. Even to the uniniated the case of New Zealand is not one of those which, upon a calm consideration of the circumstances, can, by any stretch of legitimate growling, be twisted into a cause for just complaint. So long as there is no evidence that the postal authorities are purposely manufacturing varieties we collectors have no right to complain. On the contrary, I hold that the most interesting issues of the world of stamp collecting are just those which have resulted, as the New Zealand varieties are resulting, from the more or less crude attempts of local printers to do their own stamp printing.

I am aware that there has been, and probably will be, a lot of regrettable speculation in the varieties of New Zealand, and it is also probable that some postal employés know enough of philately to appreciate them as well as collectors, and now and again, as occasion offers, may put aside a few of them. Who would not? But until we have some real evidence that postal speculation is answerable for those varieties it is, certainly, somewhat early to jump to

the conclusion that the postal administration of a leading and responsible colonial government is more venal than the most venal of the South American States. The self-respect of the collecting fraternity is jeopardized by such reckless assertions. Who will take any notice of us if we cry "wolf" over every issue that does not quite run on all fours with our personal likes and dislikes. Old issue collectors will have to be a little more careful in their criticisms or they may find the tables turned in respect to some of their own special favorites, for everyone knows that many old favorites are by no means above suspicion, and would rank very badly in comparison with these venal issues of New Zealand.



Announcement.

The resignation of Mr. Geo. C. Capen from the offices of President and Director of the American Collectors Company and its allied companies, the Scott Stamp & Coin Co. and the New England Stamp Co., was accepted at a meeting of the Board of Directors of the several companies upon October

15th and became effective upon that date.

The vacancies thus created were filled by the election of Mr. John N. Luff to the Presidency of the American Collectors Co. and of the Scott Stamp & Coin Co. for the unexpired terms and by the election of Mr. Geo. L. Toppan to the directorate of the above companies Mr. Toppan was, also, appointed Manager of the Scott Stamp & Coin Co.

Frank F. Olney.

Colonel Frank F. Olney died at his home in Providence, R. I, on Saturday evening, October 24, of pneumonia. Colonel Olney was born in Jersey City, N. J, March 12, 1851. He was a descendant of Thomas Olney, who was one of the companions of Roger Williams in the settlement of Providence in 1636. The family name was given to Olney Street and to Olneyville.

Mr. Olney removed to Providence when he was nine years old.

In his later life he held offices in the Common Council, the Board of Aldermen, the Park Commission, etc. He was elected Mayor of the city in 1894 and 1896 and at the time of his death was Chairman of the Board of Police Commissioners. He was a member of the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company of Boston and of various other military organizations. He was also Commodore of the Rhode Island Yacht Club, a member of the New York Yacht Club and of various social clubs, including the Collectors Club of New York City. He accompanied the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company on their recent tour with the Honorable Artillery Company of London, and it is probable that on this trip he caught the cold which resulted in his last illness.

As a philatelist Mr. Olney was well and favorably known, though in recent years he had not taken so active an interest in the pursuit. He was President of the American Philatelic Association for three terms. At one time he was the possessor of one of the finest collections in this country—a collection which has been viewed with delight by many philatelists, as it was always his pleasure to show it and, in fact, to do anything in his power

to entertain others who were interested.

Some years ago, by reason of failing health, he disposed of his fine collection, but did not entirely give up the pursuit. Since that time he confined

his attention to new issues and the stamps of a few countries.

His genial nature made for him a host of friends, both in and out of the stamp collecting world, and his loss will be felt by all whose privilege it was to know him.



BELGIUM.—Mr. J. C. Morgenthau has shown us the 30c, brown of the 1866 series imperforate horizontally.

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FRANCE.—Mr. Wm. Thorne has shown us an imperforate pair of the 15c. of the sower type.

0 0 0 0 0

FRENCH OFFICES IN CHINA.—We are in receipt of a letter from a correspondent in Shanghai, calling our attention to a new provisional for these offices, and giving us an interesting account of its production, use, etc.

Our correspondent writes as follows:

"I have bought up a lot of the new French rarity of 5 centimes surcharged on 15 centimes new issue. You may be aware of the circumstances surrounding the issue and sale of these stamps, or you may not Having a great deal to do with the printing office here (the Oriental Press, official press of the French authorities), I learned by accident of the issue of these stamps, which was kept a profound secret. You will recollect that formerly when the French post office surcharged 25 cmes. on 1 franc stamps, speculators and collectors immediately thronged the post office and bought them up, so that the object for which the stamps were made was defeated as there were but 9,000 of them issued

"Well, in this later issue the French authorities determined not to be thus inconvenienced and, as a great many newspapers leave here by the French mail and the fresh supply of stamps was not due for a week, these stamps were quietly surcharged and held in readiness against the expected

newspapers and circulars.

"Having obtained an inkling of the new stamps a day after they were printed, I attempted to get, personally and by proxies, some French 5 centime stamps, but was informed that there were none left. I then asked for some new surcharges, at which they were surprised, but told me they had been surcharged for Peking and had been sent away. On stating that I had some circulars that had to go by the French mail, I was told to bring them to the post office and pay the postage and they would be duly 'affranchis'. I found that this was the method that they pursued with everyone, so as to keep the secret. No stamps of the 5 centimes value were sold, but those who had circulars or newspapers to post had to deliver them to the post office and pay the postage and they were then taken into the interior private apartments. I discovered that here the French postal authorities affixed the new stamps and mailed them.

"I also found that 8,000 only of these new stamps were surcharged.
"I therefore posted a great number of circulars to private addresses in order to obtain these new stamps, and the method succeeded. I have now about 200 used specimens on original covers.

Towards the end of the week the news of the surcharges leaked out and the post office was besieged with speculators to a greater extent than formerly. People had now experience of the value of these suddenly issued stamps by the precedent of the 25c. on 1 franc. The postal authorities, however, would not sell more than 10 stamps to one person, and this went on for a whole day and the following morning. In the afternoon the stock was exhausted. The next day the French mail came in, bringing a large fresh supply of the green normal stamps."

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HAYTI.—Mr. J. C. Morgenthau has shown us a pair of the 1c yellow green, provisional government, one stamp of which has no surcharge.

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Honduras.—Mr. J. C. Morgenthau has shown us some varieties as follows: Of the regular series of 1891 there were pairs of the 20c. and 2p. the former imperforate horizontally and the latter imperforate vertically. Of the 1892 series the 1c. and 75c. in pairs imperforate horizontally and the 25c. imperforate vertically.

Of the official series of 1890 the 2c value shows two varieties; the surcharge without color and entirely without the surcharge. The 10c. and 5cc. are shown with inverted surcharge; the 25c. in a pair one having no surcharge; the 3oc. in a pair imperforate horizontally, and the 5oc. and 75c. with a double surcharge.

Mr. A. H. Greenbaum has, also, shown us the 2c. rose of the 1898 series (Locomotive type), upon vertically laid paper.

0 0 0 0 0

MADAGASCAR.—Mr. Wm. Thorne has shown us the 0,05 on 3cc. brown on bistre in which the comma between the ciphers of the surcharge is lacking. The variety is found with both the broad and the narrow ciphers.

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NICARAGUA.—We have found the two centavos value of the 1891 series of Official stamps imperforate vertically and Mr. Albert Calman has shown us the five centavos and one peso values of the same series without surcharge.

0 0 0 0 0

ORANGE RINER COLONY.—Messrs. N Yaar & Co., Amsterdam, Holland, inform us that they have received the one penny value, surcharged upon the Cape of Good Hope stamp, with the surcharge inverted.

0 0 0 0 0

ROUMANIA.—Mr. J. C. Morgenthau has shown us a variety of 30pa. blue on white wove paper, series of 1862, with a double impression.

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SALVADOR.—Mr. J. C. Morgenthau has shown us the 1c. on 3c. brown of 1888 with a double surcharge.

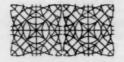
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URUGUAY .- Mr. J. C. Morgenthau has shown us the 5c. violet and red

of the provisional issue of 1891, dated in error "1391", with the addition of the "Official" surcharge.

0 0 0 0 0

VENEZUELA.—Mr. M. D. Senior has shown us a cover bearing a pair of the three bolivars, red brown, surcharged "1900" and a single copy of the one bolivar slate, surcharged "1901". The piece has every appearance of genuineness and the query naturally arises: is the date "1901" an error in the sheet or has there been a surcharge of that date?





UNITED STATES.—We have been shown a "specimen" copy of the new two cent stamp It has a full faced portrait of George Washington, slightly larger than on the stamp now in use but apparently taken from the same picture. Above the portrait are "UNITED STATES-OF AMERICA-SERIES 1902." Pelow it, on a ribbon, " 1732-WASHINGTON-1799." the bottom appears "POSTAGE-TWO CENTS" At each side is the numeral " 2" in a small pointed oval. oval at the left is surrounded by laurel leaves and that at the right by oak leaves. The background represents the national shield, of which four stars are seen in the upper part and portions of the stripes at the sides and bottom.

BERMUDA.—A new value of the "Dock-yard" series has been issued.

Adhesive stamp
Watermarked Crown and C. A.
Perforated 14.
3p olive and violet

CEYLON.—The two cents of the King's head series has reached us.

Adhesive stamp.

Watermarked Crown and C. A.
Perforated 14.
2c brown orange

COLOMBIAN REPUBLIO.—We chronicle a new lot of rubbish from this prolific field, as follows:

Adhesive stamps.

Perforated 11½,
2c black on rose
4c red on pale green
4c blue ""
5c dark blue on pale blue
5cc dark blue on rose
1p purple on buff
Imperforate.
5cc dark blue on rose

Barbacoas.—Mr. John A. Klemann calls our attention to the fact that the provisional stamp which we chronicled in the August number under "Tumaco" belongs properly under this heading and not to Tumaco. He also informs us of another value of this series, which has "Barbacoas" inserted below the signature in black, with pen and ink.

Adhesive stamps.
Imperforate.

20c black on rose 20c " " gray blue \$1.10 " " pink

Barranquilla Issue.—The following have now appeared perforated.

Adhesire stamps.
Perforated 12.
5c blue (warship)
5cc deep orange
5cc claret
1p brown orange

Bogota Issue.—The stamp chronicled in July now comes perforated.

Adhesive stamp. Perforated 12. 10c black on pink

Boyaca.—We list a few more varieties from this department.

Adhesite stamps. Imperforate.

ip red

ip claret

Perforated 12.

10p black on buff, tête bêche pair

Cartagena Issue.—The Registration stamp listed in June has now appeared perforated.

Registration stamp.
Perforated 12.
20c blue on blue

Meddelin.—A correspondent says:
"I send you enclosed a few samples of a local issue of stamps for this city. They are issued by a local company for local delivery of letters and packages, and are in use much like the white stamps of Bogota. There are only the two kinds, 20 and 40 centayos."

The design, which is the same for both values, consists of a city gate upon the horizontally lined ground of a shield enclosed in a circle. Above the shield is "1903". At the top is "CORREOS URBANOS"; in a frame surrounding the central portion is: "DE MEDELLIN" and, at the bottom, in an arched label, is the value. Numerals of value are in circular disks at the sides: the whole forming an upright rectangle measuring 151/2x20 mm. They are lithographed upon white wove paper and are arranged in sheets of sixty, ten horizontally by six vertically. We list them for what they may be worth.

Adhesive stamps.
Perforated 12.
20c dull red
40c violet

Panama.—A correspondent has sent us some sheets of Registration Return Receipt stamps which have not previously been chronicled, at least by us. They are of type RRS1.

Registration Return Receipt stamps.

Perforated 12.

Purple surcharge.

Magenta surcharge.

roc orange

costa RICA.—Mr. M. D. Senior has shown us a new 4c and described the new 6c to us. Each has a portrait, with the name below it, within an ornamental frame, and is inscribed "U. P. U. 1900" at bottom The upper label bears the name of the country and the lower one contains the value.

Adhesive stamps.

Perforated.

4c red violet and black (Jose M. Cañas)

6c bistre and black (Julian Volio)

ecuador.—We have found, among our common stock, some copies of the 4c Revenue stamp, type R4, used postally.

Revenue stamp used for postage.

Perforated. 4c yellow

French Offices in China.—We chronicle a new surcharge whose history is given at length elsewhere in this number.

Adhesive stamp.
Perforated.

Black surcharge.

Canton. - Szekula Briefmarken Verkehr says that the set with red surcharge has now given place to one surcharged in black. Adhesive stamps.
Perforated 4x13½.
Black surcharge.
Ic black on lilac blue
2c brown on buff

4c claret on lavender

5c yellow green

15c gray

20c red on green

25c blue

30c brown on bistre

40c red on straw

50c carmine on rose
75c deep violet on orange

of bronze green on straw

5fr lilac on lavender

Hoi Hao.—Mr. Wm. Thorne has shown us the following varieties without the Chinese characters of the surcharge. It is said that but one-sixth of a sheet of each of these stamps is known in this condition.

Adhesive stamps.
Perforated 14x13½.
Black surcharge.

15c gray. Chinese characters omitted 25c blue

Tchong King.—We have seen the five franc value of this series.

Adhesive stamp.
Perforated 14x13½.
Black surcharge.
5f lilac on lavender

GUATEMALA.—Mr. J. C. Morgenthau has shown us an error of the 1c on 1cc, 1898 (No. 88 in the catalogue) in which the "c" of "CENTAVO" is omitted. Several of our contempories report new varieties of the surcharge chronicled by us in May.

Perforated.

1898.
Red surcharge.
10 n toc blue green "ENTAVO"

Black surcharge.

1903.

250 on 10 dark green, surcharge in-

25c on 6c light green, surcharge inverted

Varieties : - " CENTAVOS - 25 -

1903."

25c on 1c dark green 25c on 2c carmine

"CENTAVOS" omitted.

25c on 1c dark green

25c on 2c carmine

Red surcharge.

25c on 1c dark green 25c on 15cc dark blue

25c on 200c yellow

ICELAND.—Mr. Wm. Thorne has shown us three new varieties for this country.

Adhesive stamps. Red surcharge.

Perforated 121/2.

I GILDI on 6a gray. Double surcharge Black surcharge.

Perforated 14x133/2.

I GILDI on 100a brown and violet, "I"
omitted

Official stamp.
Black surcharge.

Perforated 14x13½.

I GILDI on 16a carmine. Double surcharge, one inverted

IVORY OOAST.—L'Echo de la Timbrologie says that the series of Postal Packet stamps of this settlement have been further enriched by the addition of a four francs upon the sixty centimes Postage Due stamp. The surcharge is of the same type as those chronicled by us in August but there are three varieties of the "4". The number issued is said to be 1800.

Postal Packet stamp.

Imperforate. Black surcharge.

4f on 6oc violet on cream (3 varieties)

LABUAN.—Two new values of the current set have appeared.

Adhesive stamps.
Perforated
Ic violet and black
Ic brown and black

MALTA.—We are indebted to Mr Wm. Thorne for a sight of the new two and a half pence value of the King's head type.

Adhesive stamp.
Watermarked Crown and C. A.
Perforated 14.
2 1/2 ultramarine and red violet

MARTINIQUE.—Mr. Wm. Thorne has shown us a new 5 franc stamp It is of the usual "allegorical group" type.

Adhesive stamp.
Perforated.
5fr lilac on lavender

NEW SOUTH WALES.—Mr. A. H. Greenebaum has shown us the one shilling value perforated for official use.

Official stamp.
Perforated.
Perforated "O. S.—N. S. W."
1sh violet brown

NEW ZEALAND.—Mr Fred Hagen has sent us specimens of two values of the pictorial series upon a strongly ribbed paper. From the cancellation upon the nine pence, which is the only one which is at all legible and which reads "MASTERTON, N. Z. 13 FE OI", it is evident that they must have appeared nearly three years ago at least. We are, therefore, inclined to refer them to the first local printings upon unwatermarked paper (Nos. 88 to 98 of the catalogue).

Adhesive stamps. Perforated 11. Ribbed paper. 1899-1900. 2½p blue (Wakatipu) 9p red violet

PHILIPPINES.—Mr. J. M. Bartels informs us that he has seen the following values of the current series of United States stamps surcharged for use here:

Adhesive stamps.
Watermarked U. S. P. S.
Perforated 12.
Black Surcharge.
1c green
2c carmine
5oc orange

RUSSIA.—Another value has appeared upon the vertically laid paper.

Adhesive stamp.
Perforated 14½.
Vertically laid paper,
4k rose

seyohelles.—Still another value has received the "3 Cents" surcharge, we list:—

Adhesive stamp.

Watermarked Crown and C. A.

Perforated 14. 3c on 18c green and carmine

SOMALI COAST.—Mr. Wm.
Thorne has shown us the new series.
All have the centers in black excepting the first 25c value.

Adhesive stamps.

Perforated

1c violet and black

2c yellow brown and black

4c red and black

5c blue green and black roc carmine and black r5c brown orange and black

20c brown violet and black 25c indigo and light blue

25c blue and black

30c carmine and black 40c light orange and black 50c green and black 75c brown orange and black ifr. orange and black 2fr. yellow green and black 5fr. deep orange and black

TRINIDAD. - Mr. M. D. Senior has shown us a new 4p value of the "Britania seated" type. Adhesive stamp. Watermarked Crown and C. A. Perforated 14. 4p gray green and ultramarine, buff

Communications.

We take pleasure in publishing the following communication, and trust that those of our readers who may be in a position to comply with Mr.

Morten's request will do so at their earliest opportunity:

"Mr. W. V. Morten, member of the Philatelic Society, London, is assisting in compiling the Society's hand-book on the 'Stamps of Zanzibar.' It would be esteemed a favor, and it is hoped a help to philatelists generally, if readers who have large blocks, errors, and more especially sheets or panes, of any value of the Indian surcharged stamps, would kindly send particulars of them to him, addressed to 205 Sumatra Road, West Hampstead, London, N.W., England, which will be duly and thankfully acknowledged."

BIRMINGHAM, Eng., Sept. 30th, 1903.

EDITOR, AMERICAN JOURNAL OF PHILATELY,

Dear Sir:—The article in "A. J. of P." page 223 should read as follows after the description of Mr Mertzanoff's Greek stamps:-

P. R. Kleeberg-Bronze medal and diploma.

For a small collection of unused and used Luxemburg.

P. Kosack-Bronze medal and diploma.

For a small special collection of unused Iceland etc. etc. as printed (in error) under Kleeberg.

Yours faithfully,

FRANK E. WILSON.

Messrs. C. Nissen & Co., of 77 High Holborn, London, W. C., inform us of their intention to publish in November, the first issue of a new yearly publication for Philatelists, to be known as "THE STAMP COLLECTORS' ANNUAL." This will be a shilling book of over 100 pages, containing a compilation of facts and information interesting and valuable to all Philatelists, besides a mass of original and exclusive matter. This new "Annual," in fact, will strive to become the "Whitaker" or the "Hazel" of our hobby, its publishers being firmly convinced that there exists a real demand for an interesting and authoritative "Year Book of Philately." Correspondence is ordially invited from those who are interested in in the subject.

The Collectors Club.

351 FOURTH AVENUE,

NEW YORK.

The 98th meeting of the Board of Governors was held at the club house on Monday evening, October 12, 1903. Present: Messrs. Andreini, Dewing, Morgenthau, Rich, Scott and Perrin.

The President called the meeting to order at 8.30 P. M. The minutes of

the previous meeting were approved as read.

The resignations of Messrs. Benjamin, Douglas, Castle, Frey, Hawkins,

Hussman and Phillips were read and accepted with regrets.

The Treasurer's report showing a cash balance in bank of \$115.31, exclusive of reserve fund, was read and approved. The Treasurer reported that Mr. Kennedy had purchased a share of stock from the Club and is now a stockholder instead of a subscribing member.

The House Committee's report was read and received.

The application of Mr. W. H. Manning, having been posted the required length of time, was balloted upon, and he was declared to have been unnimously elested a subscribing member of the Club.

Adjourned at 9.40 P. M.

ALBERT PERRIN, Secretary.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The eighth meeting of the stockholders and seventh annual meeting of the club was held at the club house on Wednesday evening, October 14,

The meeting was called to order at 8.40 P. M. by President Andreini. The following members answered to the calling of the roll: J. M. Andreini, P. F. Bruner, E. M. Carpenter, L. W. Charlat, C. B. Corwin, W. W. Dewing, N. Dieschbourg, Chas. Gregory, B. von Hodenberg, A. Holland, L. M. Homburger, D. R. Kennedy, J. A. Klemann, A. Krassa, John N. Luff, J. C. Morgenthau, Albert l'errin. Jos. S. Rich, J. W. Scott, Jas. H. Stebbins, Jr., P. Stypman, Geo. R. Tuttle.

The reading of the minutes of the preceding meeting of the stockholders

was dispensed with.

The reports of the following officers and committees were read and

accepted :

The President's report. The Treasurer's report. The Secretary's report.

The House Committee's report. The Amusement Committee's report. The Auditing Committee's report.

The Literary Committee's report: The Membership Committee's report.

The Biography Committee's report.

There being no other business before the meeting, the election of Governors was in order and there being but one ticket the Secretary was instructed to cast one ballot for the Club, which was announced by the President as

follows:

Governors to serve until October, 1906:

P. F. Bruner Jos. S. Rich, J. W. Scott.

To serve until October, 1904: M. H. Lombard.

The chair thereupon declared Messrs. Bruner, Rich, Scott and Lombard duly elected.

Adjourned at 9 20 P. M.

ALBERT PERRIN, Secretary.

GOVERNOR'S MEETING.

The ninety ninth meeting of the Board of Governors was held at the club house on Wednesday evening, October 14, 1903.

Present: Messrs. Andreini, Bruner, Dewing, Morgenthau, Luff, Rich,

Scott and Perrin.

The meeting was called to order at 0.25 P. M., with Mr. Bruner in the

Mr J. M. Andreini was nominated and unanimously elected President for the ensuing year.

Mr. P. F Bruner was nominated and unanimously elected Vice-President

for the ensuing year.

Mr. W. W. Dewing was nominated and unanimously elected Treasurer for the ensuing year.

Mr. Albert Perrin was nominated and unanimously elected Secretary for

the ensuing year.

The following committees was appointed by the President to serve dur-

ing the ensuing year:

EXECUTIVE - J. C. Morgenthau, Chairman. J. O. Hobby. J. W. George. House.-John N. Luff, Chairman. G. E. Jones. Albert Perrin. G. R. Tuttle. Oscar DeJonge.

AMUSEMENT AND EXHIBITION .- P. F. Bruner, Chairman. John N. Luff.

C. B. Corwin, J. C. Morgenthau Julius Herzog.

AUDITING.—J. M. Andreini, *Chairman*. Wm. Thorne. Henry Clotz.

LITERARY.—Jos. S. Rich, *Chairman*. H. E. Deats. F. E. P. Lynde. MEMBERSHIP - W. W. Dewing, Chairman. H. E. Robinson. A. Krassa.

W. F. Gregory. E. B. Power.

BIOGRAPHY.- John W. Scott, Chairman. Chas. Gregory. Jos. S. Rich. Mr. J. W. Scott was authorized to have the annual report and membership list printed.

Adjourned at 10 P. M.

ALBERT PERRIN, Secretary.

Birmingham Philatelic Society.

October 1st .- Annual General Business Meeting.

The statement of accounts, showing a balance in hand of £81.11.7 1/2, was passed and the following amended programme was approved:

October 20.—Display. Great Britain, New South Wales, Mauritius. Mr.

W. B. Avery.

October 29.—Paper. Portugal and Colonies. Mr G. Johnson. November 12.—Paper. South Australia. Mr. R. Hollick.

December 3.-Auction.

January 7, 1904 - Lantern Display. Mr. J. A. Margoschis.

February 4.—Paper. Holland and Colonies. Messrs. H. Grindall and J. A. Margoschis.

February 25 and 26.—Auction.

March 4.—Paper. Norway and Sweden. Messrs. T. W. Peck and P. T. Deakin.

March 18.—Paper. Ceylon. Messrs. C. A. Stephenson and W. S. Vaughton.

April 21.—Display. West Indies. Mr. W. Pimm.

May 5.—Display. Straits Settlements. Messrs. Hollick, Stephenson, and others.

The election of the following members was confirmed: Messrs. H. R. Stevens, B. A., A. Waroquiers, Dr. E. Barclay Smith, Rev. D. M. Wright, K. Schmiede, J. Robinson, H. L. Bryce. All other applications for membership were adjourned till next meeting.

Votes of thanks were entered on the minutes to the following donors to the permanent collection: Messrs. H. Beramendi, T. H. Nicolle, H. L. Hayman, A. Mattana, W. Brettschneider, G. Gelli, Wilcox Smith, H. J. Bignold, W. Pimm, E. D. Hissard, W. de Quinze, P. Kohl, S. S. Kee, C. H. Goulden, Prof. Dr. Schoch, Rev. W. N. Usher.

Messrs. C. T. Reed, G. W. Martin, A. Mattana and David Benjamin,

were thanked for contributions to the Library.

The "Stamp Collector" was again adopted as the official journal of the Society, and improvements are promised which will bring it quite into the front rank of philatelic periodicals.

The officers and committee were all re-elected.

It was decided to print 3,000 copies of the Annual Report, and to include in same a tentative list of "United States Auction Catalogues" and a list of "Wants in the Permanent Collection"

£20 was voted in aid of the permanent collection which now contains 8,287 mounted in Gibbons' Imperial Albums, Vols. 1 and 2 (2,961 in the Colonial Album, and 5,326 in the Foreign one), in addition to a number of locals, fiscals, etc, which will be mounted in other albums in due course.

The list of members shows a net increase of 18 over last year, the total

now being 318.

The total value circulated in the packet during the past year has been £38,756.7 3, of which £4,371.17.9 was sold.

